

INTERVIEWERS WIN EINSTEIN, FAMOUS RELATIVITY ADEPT

Scientist Yields Gracefully
in Steamer Hylan Cabin,
Despite Berlin Prayer.

JEW FLAG ON CITY BOAT

Four Big Zionists Land at
Sundown at Battery and
Parade East Side.

GREETED BY THOUSANDS

Missioners From Europe Here
to Attend Meeting for Re-
claiming Palestine.

Before leaving Berlin Prof. Albert Einstein voiced a prayer that he should not be interviewed in America, for "to answer reporters' questions is like being undressed in public." But yesterday afternoon he stepped obediently into the cabin of the police boat John F. Hylan, ferrying him from Hoboken to the Battery, to answer all the questions that a groping lot of newspaper men—and a newspaper woman—could think of. And, honestly, any one could tell from his chuckling and his willingness to stay until the worst was over that he enjoyed it.

Thus the originator of the theory of relativity, which several persons profess to understand and a few undoubtedly do, although Mrs. Einstein, who is with her husband, says it's rather dim to her, surrendered, as they all do, to a great American tradition. Incidentally, he made captive his interviewers at the same time. Whoever spread the idea over here that Prof. Einstein is merely a thinking machine and as cold as one of the burned out worlds that occasionally engage his attention, is all wrong.

He comes here as one of the Zionist missioners, whose purpose is to interest American Jews in the restoration of Palestine and to tell them how it may be done. His special interest is in the establishment of a university in Jerusalem. The head of the delegation is Dr. Chaim Weizmann, formerly professor of chemistry in the University of Manchester, now president of the World Zionist Organization. The two others are Dr. Ussishkin and Dr. Ben Zion Moesekohn, head of the Jewish high school at Jaffa.

Welcomed at the Battery.

These four, whose arrival has been feverishly awaited by a multitude of Americans, arrived on the Rotterdam. The ship was held at Quarantine until 2 P. M., while steamer passengers were disembarked. Then it moved to its pier in Hoboken, but, it being the Jewish Sabbath, the Zionists could not disembark until sundown. So the sun, a tangerine in a smoky sky, had just slipped out of sight when the visitors were transferred to the police boat John F. Hylan.

On the boat a large committee of welcome, representing many Jewish organizations and the city of New York as well, enveloped the travellers. At the jackstaff waved a white, blue barred flag with the six pointed star of David in the middle. It was certainly the first time the Zionist flag had been flown on any craft of public ownership in this harbor. At the Battery thousands of men and women and a company of Jewish legionnaires who fought under Allenby in Palestine waited until dusk to salute with great shouting the preachers of the new Palestine.

Then there was a parade uptown, the principal street of the chosen route being Second avenue, up which the fifty automobiles struggled through exultantly cheering crowds that drained the whole East Side. And so to the Commodore Hotel, where the Zionist missioners will stay until April 6, when they will speak at a mass meeting in the Sixty-ninth Regiment Armory, after which they will start on a tour of American cities. Prof. Einstein said he thought he would give a lecture at Princeton, as that, he said, was the first university to invite him to do so.

Aboard the Rotterdam Prof. Einstein shook the hands of reporters from New Jersey, but said no word. His comely wife went so far as to say: "He has told me the theory a great many times, but it is all dim to me."

Quickly Glances the Harbor.

Aboard the police boat the scientist mounted first the upper deck to view the harbor. Then he appeared among the reporters gathered in the cabin. "What do you wish of me?" he said in German.

He is fairly tall and broad shouldered. He wears a black felt hat with a wide and rather flat brim, resembling somewhat the hat that clergymen always wear in the movies, but his brim was more floppy, and the hat was pushed well back on his head.

An interpreter voluntarily asked him to remove the hat so that "the press can see how you look." He took it off with slow motion, smiling as if at his own thoughts. His hair is black with wisps of gray. It is long and waves back over the crown like a musician's. It is "distinguished" hair. He has a broad and a high forehead, but it is not bulging. No glasses intercept the sparkle of his dark, inquiring eyes. His face is rather pale, as if outdoors were not the man's constant enjoyment.

His dark mustache bushes over his lip, but it is trimmed down at the sides. His hair was dark, and so, apparently, was his coat, beneath a nondescript raincoat. His speech and whole manner instantly strike one as being very gentle. He seemed diffident in the presence of so many inquisitors. He knew they could know nothing worth while about the work of his life, and they knew he had said when he wrote a book about his theory that probably not more than a dozen persons in the world would understand the book. This, in a way, put everybody at ease.

Interpreters were called for. Four gentlemen of New York volunteered. It developed that while all were up on Yiddish and could translate ordinary German, the topic of this interview rather stumped them. But up their earnest corners of one another's versions and by the employment of a glimmering of German possessed by some of the reporters they arrived at something apparently similar to the answers actually given to the few queries tossed at Prof. Einstein.

"Will you define in simple terms your theory of relativity?" was the first question.

"It is a theory," the doctor readily replied, "of space and time, so far as physics is concerned. It leads to a

definite theory of gravitation. That is all one can say in a few words.

"How long were you in arriving at the theory?"

"I am not through yet." He waved his short, curved stemmed pipe with a gesture indicating much work ahead. Then he added: "I worked for about sixteen years. The theory has two phases. The first one occupied seven years, the second eight or nine."

"And what led you into this field of speculation?"

"I came to it through a study of the phenomena of the expansion of light through space. That was the first phase. The second phase was the observation of the effect of the movement of various bodies. For example, the manner in which they fall to the ground irrespective of their physical nature: the fact that from an iron ball and a wooden ball of the same size fall from a given point with the same velocity."

Here Dr. Einstein mentioned the "theory of acceleration," but the interpreters were not equal to it. He spoke then of his hope for the founding of a university in Jerusalem. He said he was now a member of the Academy of Sciences of Berlin and a lecturer at the University of Leyden. He was asked why there was animosity against him and his discoveries in Germany.

"No man of culture and knowledge has any prejudice against my theory," he said. "Physicists who do oppose it are animated by political reasons, in my opinion. This is due primarily to anti-Semitism. I do not care to say more about this."

"Do you believe that you have carried Newton's law of gravitation a step further?"

"Yes," he answered, after looking at the questioner rather quizzically, "I believe it is a step forward in definiteness, as well as in method."

He then said he hoped to lecture at the University of Palestine when one was established, and, fondling his Quakerish felt hat, arose in response to the clamor of committeemen who were beckoning through portholes.

He was asked of course about the significance of his discovery that rays of light were slowed up and bent upon entering a field of gravitation. He said: "That merely proved the truth of my theory."

"I hope," he said, as he turned to go, "that I have passed my examination."

Dr. Weizmann who also is a scientist of distinction, was as the head of the Zionist commission, its spokesman. Strong support of the movement for the reconstruction of Palestine was expected in this country, he said. He thought the movement would help in solving "one of the great problems that have arisen following the war; would lead to the solution of the question so full of tragedy, the position of the Jewry, particularly in eastern Europe."

While in this country the commission expected "to lay a series of plans for the reconstruction." He said that the work must be begun by making preparations for colonization, by irrigation, road building, setting up schools, putting electricity to work, and the like. Properly developed, Palestine could be made the home of 3,000,000 persons, against the present 650,000, 100,000 of whom are Jews. Already there were 14,000 Jewish children in the schools, 12,000 of them in Jewish schools.

"Is there any great desire among the Jews to go back to Palestine?" Dr. Weizmann was asked.

"At present," he said, "we cannot cope with the immigration. A thousand a month are coming in, chiefly from eastern Europe. The typical immigrant is a sturdy young man who has been through the war, is unmarried, is used to hard work."

The chairman of the New York committee which arranged the reception of the Zionists was Judge Gustave Hartmann. The honorary chairman of the Mayor's welcoming committee was Nathan Straus, and the chairman Judge B. A. Rosenblatt. The whole Jewish press in America and organizations from many American and Canadian cities were represented.

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